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**PATENT APPLICATION**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Katsunori KAWANO et al.

Group Art Unit: 1756

Application No.: 09/708,498

Examiner: M. Angebranndt

Filed: November 9, 2000

Docket No.: 100390.01

For: OPTICAL STORAGE MEDIUM, OPTICAL STORAGE METHOD, OPTICAL STORAGE APPARATUS, OPTICAL READING METHOD, OPTICAL READING APPARATUS, OPTICAL RETRIEVING METHOD AND OPTICAL RETRIEVING APPARATUS

**REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION**

Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Sir:

In reply to the February 10, 2003 Office Action, reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested in light of the following remarks.

Claims 1-7 are pending in this application. Applicants gratefully acknowledge the February 28, 2003 Office Communication enclosing a translation of the reference JP-A 03-075789.

Applicants appreciate the courtesies shown to Applicants' representatives by Examiner Angebranndt in the April 29, 2003 personal interview. Applicants' separate record of the substance of the interview is incorporated into the following remarks.

Reconsideration in view of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

**I. Rejection Under §102(b)**

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 2 and 7 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over JP-A 03-075789. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.